

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-16 and 28-32 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-41 are allowed.
3. The Examiner had found that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious: "establishing a secure tunnel between a server of an associated network and a peer using an encryption algorithm that establishes a server encryption key possessed by the server and a peer encryption key possessed by the peer; authenticating the peer with the server over the secured tunnel establishing a server authentication key possessed by the server and a peer authentication key possessed by the peer; hashing the server encryption key and the server authentication key to produce a first hash; hashing the peer encryption key and the peer authentication key to produce a second hash; verifying by the server that the peer possesses the same encryption and authentication keys as the server by comparing the first hash with the second hash; distributing a network access credential from the server to the peer using the secured tunnel, responsive to the verifying the peer possesses the same encryption and authentication keys as the server; and signaling an authorization failure to the peer in accordance with the distributing of the network access credential, prior to the peer authenticating with the associated network using the distributed network access

credential, and denying by the server access to the network by the peer until the peer authenticates with the associated network using the distributed network access credential" as in claims 1 and 9.

4. Any comments considered necessary by the Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance or Examiner Amendment."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUMAN DEBNATH whose telephone number is (571)270-1256. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on 571 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. D./
Examiner, Art Unit 2435
/Kimyen Vu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2435